

BOOK BEFORE 31 JULY 2009 AND SAVE £300 PER PERSON

Passage to Libya

*A cruise of discovery from the Red Sea to Malta visiting
Jordan, Egypt and Libya aboard the MS Island Sky
30th March to 15th April 2010*



NOBLE CALEDONIA

It is difficult to imagine a more culturally fascinating itinerary than this, which takes us through the ancient worlds of the Nabataeans, Egyptians and Greek and Roman Africa. Our journey will include the rose red city of Petra, the deeply spiritual St Catherine's Monastery in the Sinai desert, the great temples of Luxor and the Valley of the Kings, Cairo and the Pyramids of Giza, and in Libya, the Roman city of Leptis Magna.

For many, the journey along the Libyan coast will be the highlight as we explore some superb examples of Islamic architecture, gilded Byzantine churches, Kasbahs and ancient sites which testify to the brilliance of the Greek and Roman empires.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London Heathrow to Amman. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive in the late evening and transfer to your first class hotel for a two night stay.

Day 2 Amman. This morning, join the half day city tour or explore Amman independently. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 3 Amman to Petra. Today we shall visit Mount Nebo and the Kerak Crusader Castle before making our way to Petra for an overnight stay in a first class hotel.

Day 4 Petra to Aqaba. Rise early and after breakfast join the local guide for a walk through the Siq, the narrow gorge that leads into Petra. Visit the breathtaking Treasury and other monuments of the vanished city. Later, drive to the Red Sea port of Aqaba, embark the *MS Island Sky* and sail.

Day 5 Sharm el Sheik. Today you have the choice of joining an excursion into the interior of the Sinai Peninsula and the lonely desert monastery of St Catherine's (please note subject to opening schedule, may be able to view outside only). Alternatively, explore the seas around Sharm el Sheik which are famous for their coral reefs.

Day 6 Luxor. This will be a long but rewarding day. From the Red Sea port of Safaga, drive through the desert to Luxor and the ancient necropolis of ancient Thebes. See the tombs



of the Pharaohs in the Valley of the Kings, the mortuary temple of Queen Hatshepsut and the Colossi of Memnon.

Day 7 At sea/Suez Canal/Cairo.

Today you may wish to take an optional overnight excursion to Cairo and Giza, returning to the ship in the late evening of Day 8.

Day 8 Suez Canal Transit. We begin the day long transit of the Suez Canal and the Great Bitter Lake to Port Said.

Day 9 Alexandria. On an afternoon tour, visit the fort built by Sultan Qaitbey in the 1480s on the site of the famous Pharos Lighthouse, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Alternatively join an optional full day excursion into the desert to El Alamein.

Day 10 At sea.

Day 11 Derna. Second only to Leptis Magna in importance, Cyrene is the best preserved of the Greek cities of Cyrenaica. See its tombs, temples, agora, gymnasium and theatre modelled on those at Delphi.

Day 12 Benghazi. Drive along the coast road to Tukrah, one of the five cities of the Pentapolis. See the ruins, including a Byzantine church and also visit the museum.

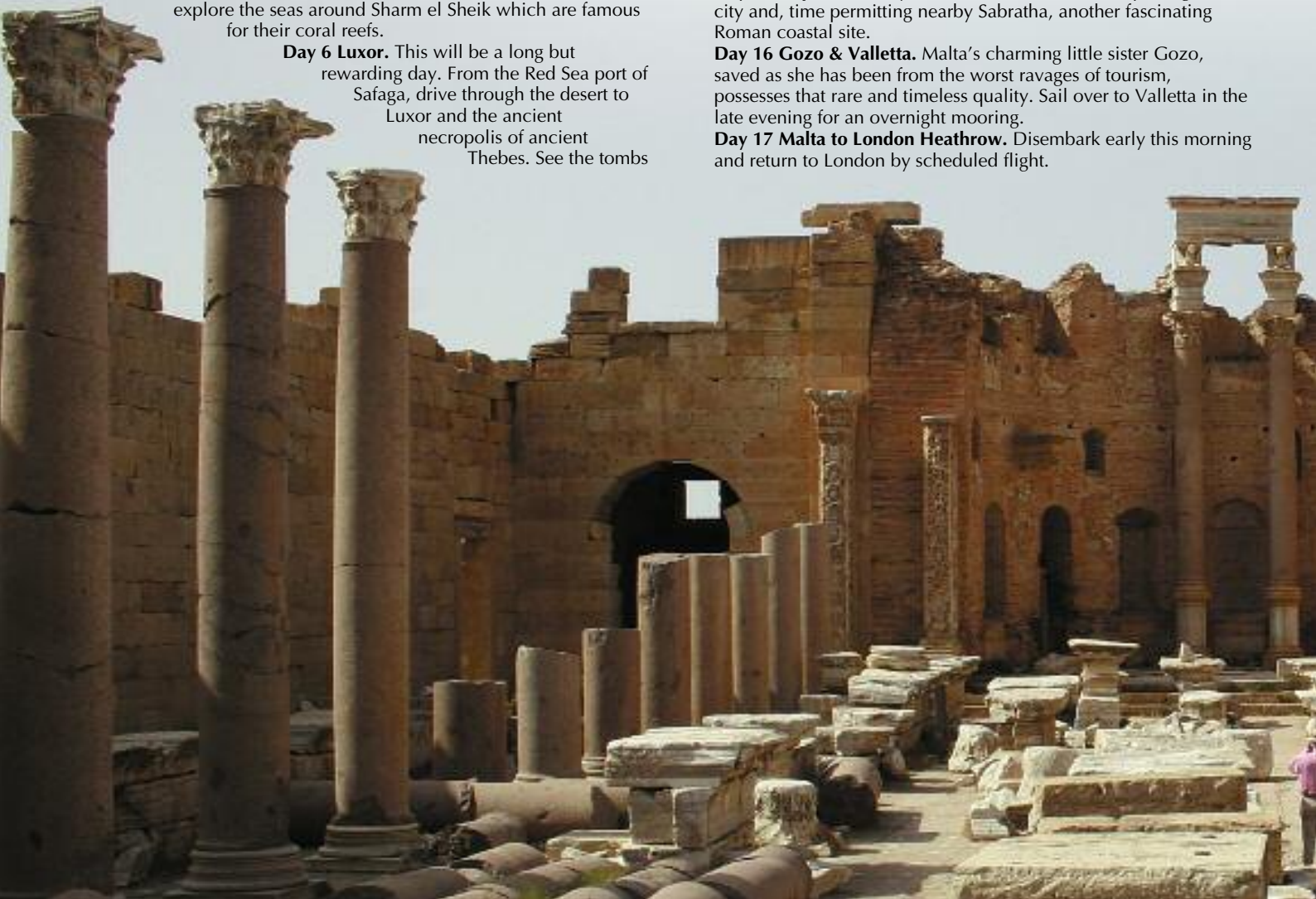
Day 13 Misratah/Leptis Magna. Land this morning in Misratah and drive along the coast to Leptis Magna, certainly one of the most impressive Roman sites anywhere. Explore the site, including the amphitheatre, the aqueduct, the Nymphaeum, the Forum and the old harbour. See the tombs (Zawiyas), which were for centuries a place of pilgrimage for fertility, and the imposing Sidi Abdusalam Mosque. During the afternoon the *MS Island Sky* will sail to Al Khoms where we rejoin the vessel in the late afternoon. Moor overnight in Al Khoms.

Day 14 Al Khoms/Leptis Magna. Return this morning to Leptis Magna, the site is so magnificent that a second visit is more than justified. Sail during lunch for Tripoli, arriving in the late afternoon. Moor overnight.

Day 15 Tripoli. The day will be divided between exploring the city and, time permitting nearby Sabratha, another fascinating Roman coastal site.

Day 16 Gozo & Valletta. Malta's charming little sister Gozo, saved as she has been from the worst ravages of tourism, possesses that rare and timeless quality. Sail over to Valletta in the late evening for an overnight mooring.

Day 17 Malta to London Heathrow. Disembark early this morning and return to London by scheduled flight.





M'garr harbour, Gozo



Giza

BOOK BEFORE 31 JULY 2009 AND SAVE £300 PER PERSON OFF PRICES SHOWN BELOW

Prices per person

based on double occupancy Tour Code: SCISKRED

DECK	SUITE CATEGORY	DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	SOLE OCCUPANCY
Magellan	Standard (Forward)	£4295	£5795
Magellan	Standard	£4895	£6195
Columbus	Superior	£5495	£6995
Marco Polo	Premium	£5995	-
Marco Polo	Corner	£6195	-
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£6595	-
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£7095	-
Marco Polo	Single	-	£5895

Price includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, two nights hotel accommodation in Amman and overnight accommodation in Petra in first class hotels on full board basis, 13 nights aboard the *MS Island Sky* on full board, shore excursions, transfers, services of a cruise director, tour manager, guest speaker, port taxes, airport taxes.

Not included: Travel insurance, optional overnight excursion to Cairo and Giza and full day El Alamein excursion, visas, gratuities.

NB. Ports subject to change. All special offers subject to availability. Local weather conditions may affect itinerary.

In the Footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia Extension

For those who would like to explore Aqaba and Wadi Rum prior to embarking the *MS Island Sky*, we have arranged pre-cruise extension including two nights accommodation at the deluxe Movenpick Hotel in Aqaba from where we will drive into the desert in four wheel drive vehicles to Wadi Rum. Much of David Lean's epic 'Lawrence of Arabia' was filmed on location amongst the towering rockscapes and moving sand dunes. On a guided excursion we will explore the Valley of the Moon. This is where Prince Faisal Bin Hussein and T.E. Lawrence based their headquarters during the Arab Revolt against the ottomans during the First World War and their exploits are intrinsically woven into the history of this amazing area. Described by Lawrence as "vast, echoing and god-like".

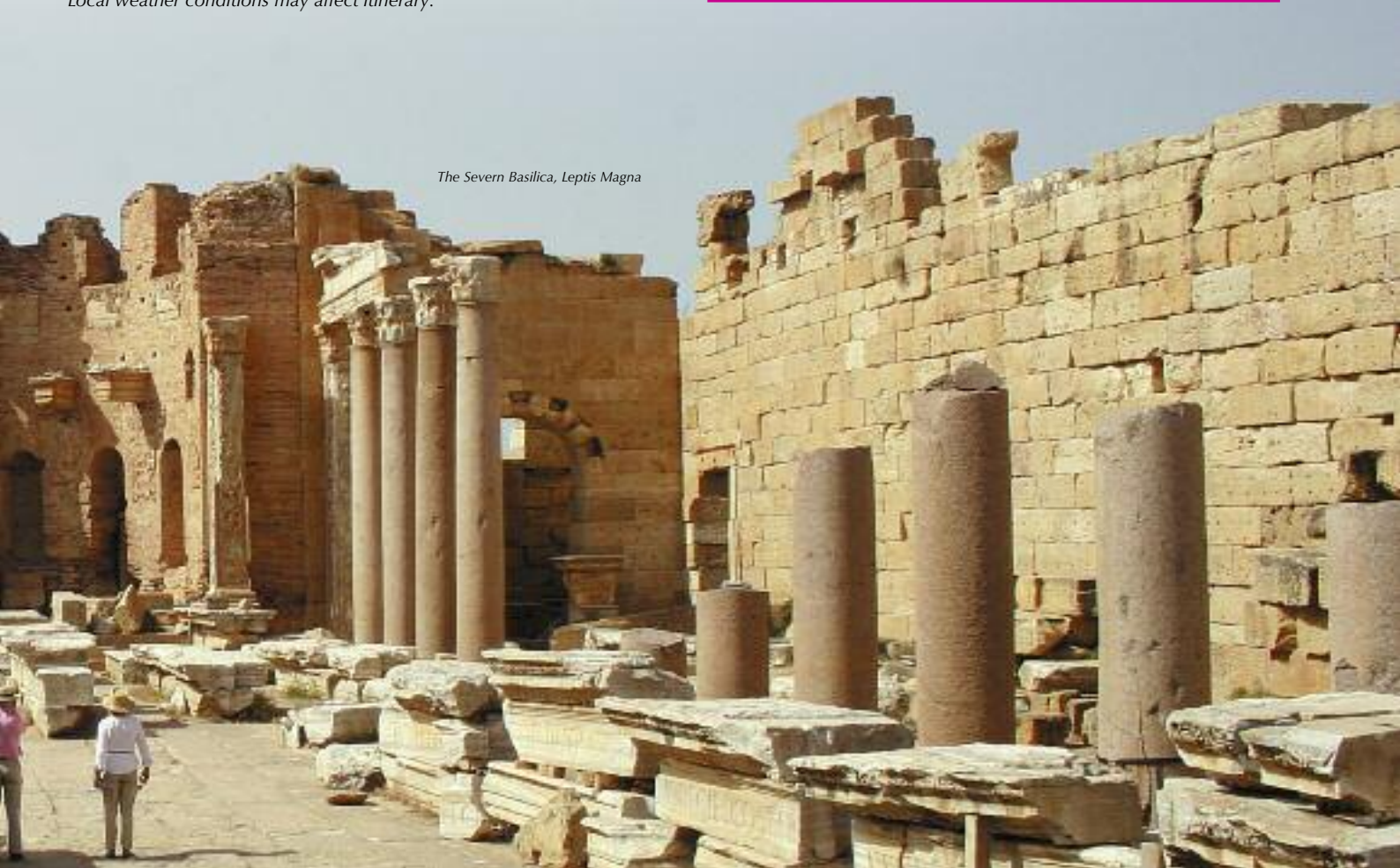
Those joining the extension will fly from London on 28 March 2010 and complete the Amman and Petra stay as detailed in the itinerary prior to driving on to Aqaba for the two night stay which will include the full day excursion to Wadi Rum and accommodation on full board basis.

Twin: £495

Single: £595



Wadi Rum



The Severn Basilica, Leptis Magna



MS Island Sky

Formerly known as *Renaissance VIII*, this deluxe vessel is one of the finest small ships in the world.

Your Suite

Built in Italy in 1992 to a high specification, the *MS Island Sky* offers exceptionally spacious and well designed cabins. All cabins are in fact suites with a sitting room. Arranged over five decks, all have outside views and some have private balconies. Each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom, large wardrobes, vanity table with large mirror and stool and excellent storage. There are mini-fridges, television and a telephone in each suite.

Your Space

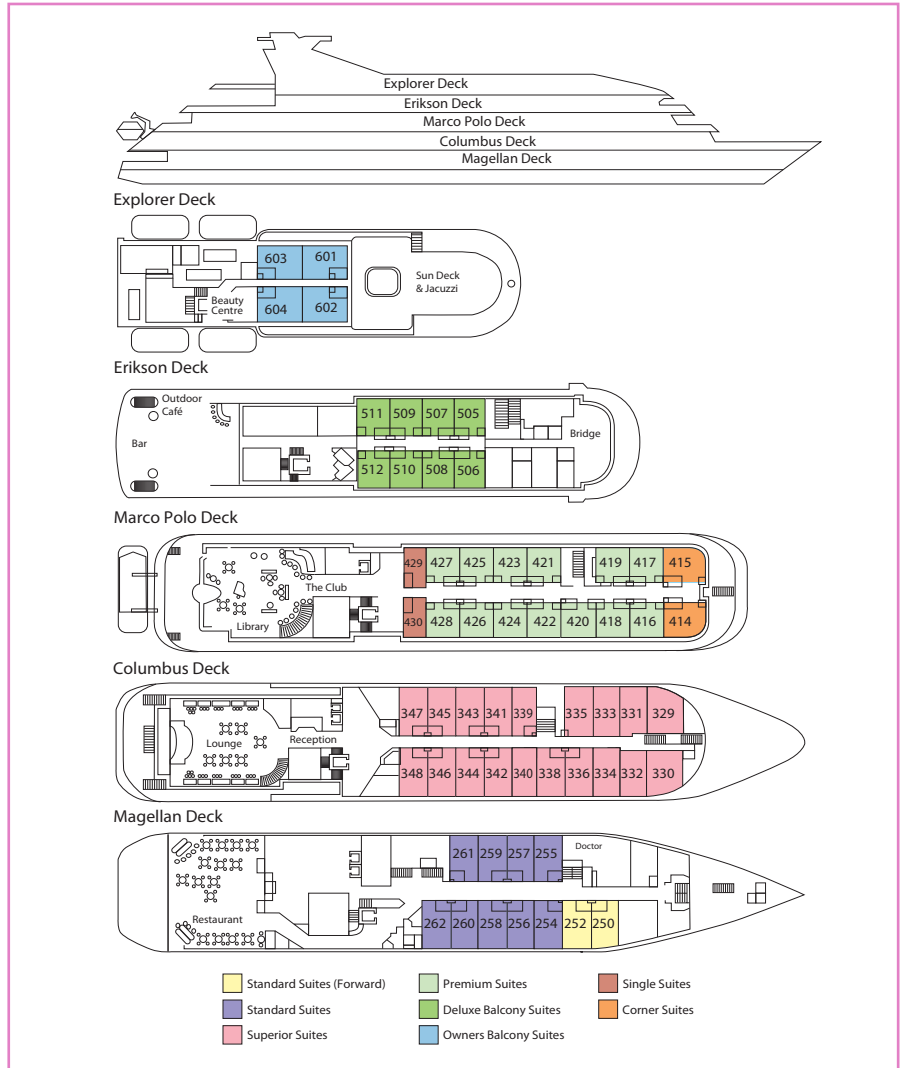
Our maximum complement of passengers is 116, although a vessel of this size is capable of carrying many more. The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large lounge, elegant bar with piano, library and single sitting dining room. Outside there is a rear sun deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade, a bar, jacuzzi and comfortable deck furniture.

Your Dining

With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the galley is able to provide delicious meals, the chef obtaining local produce where possible. In the main restaurant, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order, and lunch and dinner are à la carte. When weather permits, breakfast and a buffet-style lunch are also served on deck.

A Unique Atmosphere

On board there is a high ratio of crew to passengers and the crew are mainly Filipino and Eastern European. Our northern European captains are experienced mariners and if, like them and us, you prefer a peaceful life at sea, you will find the *MS Island Sky* the perfect ship. We promise there will be no organized entertainment or any of the usual big ship experiences. The atmosphere on board is more akin to a private yacht or country hotel. A little music in the lounge or bar after dinner, guest speakers and informative port briefings from our cruise director will add to your experience. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well run and exceedingly comfortable ship.



Magellan deck - standard suite



Erikson Deck



Restaurant



Library

FRONT COVER: El-Dier (the Monastery), Petra; The Pyramids at Giza; MS Island Sky; Exotic fish inhabit the reefs around Sharm el Sheik



Call 020-7752 0000

Reservations: Monday to Saturday from 9am to 5pm. Brochures: 24 hours a day/7 days a week



NOBLE CALEDONIA



www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

2 CHESTER CLOSE, BELGRAVIA, LONDON SW1X 7BE
info@noble-caledonia.co.uk Fax: 020 7245 0388

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority.